

THE Caledonian

No. 9131. EDINBURGH,



Mercury.

MONDAY, MARCH 13, 1780.

THEatre ROYAL.
To-morrow Evening, being TUESDAY March 14, will be presented,
The favourite Comedy of The

SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL.

Sir Peter Teazle,	Mr WILKINSON;
Joseph Surface,	Mr WOODS;
Sir Benjamin Backbite,	Mr LANE;
Mofes,	Mr BAILEY;
And Charles Surface,	Mr CAUTHERLEY.
Mrs Candour,	Mr HITCHCOCK;
Lady Sneerwell,	Mr HART;
And Lady Teazle,	Mr SMITH.

To which will be added, the New Pantomime, called

HARLEQUIN SORCERER;

O.R. A.

TRIP TO POOLE'S.

In which will be introduced a variety of New Scenery, Songs, &c.

To conclude with the

Taking of FORT OMOA in the Bay of Honduras from the SPANIARDS.

As performing at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, with the greatest Applause.

Harlequin, Mr CHALMERS; Clown, Mr BAILEY.

And Columbine, Miss MILLS.

SALE of LINEN and WOOLLEN DRAPERY,

GREATLY BELOW COST, for Ready Money only.

THIS day began to be sold off, The Whole STOCK in TRADE of CHARLES INNES, at the shop lately possessed by him, entering by the same forestairs with the Exchange Coffeehouse.—The articles consist of fine and coarse Linens, Hollands, Sheetings, Long-Lawns, Diaper and Damask Table-cloths of various sizes, some of them very large;—Superfine and Second broad and narrow Cloths, Hunters Cloths, Duffles, Freezes, Wilton and German Serges, black and coloured Shal-loons;—Velvets, Silkens, Corduroys, Fustians, plain and corded Dammies, &c.—Velveteen, Loretos, and a variety of Stuffs for Gentlemen's vests;—Fine fashionable Hats, Riding-hats, and servants ditto;—black Sattins and Silks for breeches;—Silk, thread, cotton, and worsted Stockings; silk and worsted Breeches pieces, &c.

Common coloured Superficies are selling at 12s. and the other goods proportionably low, as the whole must speedily be sold.

Time of sale from ten in the forenoon till five o'clock afternoon.

To the Printer of the Caledonian Mercury.

SIR,

YOUR paper has always been noted for the insertion of any thing that appertains to the good and prosperity of Scotland. It therefore must give you pleasure to know what improvement has, of late, been made in the culture of flax, and saving its seed in this country.

We have, till of late, been only dabbling at that article: Little of it sown, and that small quantity, from the ignorance of the cultivators, as badly managed. Time has now done away these difficulties. The plan of winning the seed, by keeping it upon the flax, has been introduced; and, with the highest satisfaction, I have it in my power to inform you, that the greatest success has attended this method.

Last season, a very considerable quantity of lintseed was sown. In four parishes in East Lothian, I know of more than one hundred acres of this commodity. It has turned out well;—the seed is good. I have seen a deal of it; and I declare I like it as well as that we import from Holland. Since we can now serve ourselves in this necessary article, is not our country much benefited? Great sums which were formerly remitted abroad, may now be kept at home, and an immense good, besides, done to the community, by the employment of hands which the cultivation and dressing this article requires.

A long prejudice has prevailed against Scots lintseed. It is now found, however, to grow fully as well, and give as good increase, as either Riga or Dutch. I had occasion lately to see some seed, which had been four times resown since its importation, and it was not in the least degenerate.

Premiums have been the life and soul of this infant culture. Every thing needs a beginning; and, without this temptation, no farmer would have precipitated himself into the trouble and expence which is incurred at the introduction of any new system of husbandry. What with flax, seed, and premiums, even wheat crops have been a bauble in comparison. Where it succeeds, the most handsome returns are got; and it is certain, at this time, that no grain can profit a farmer so much as the cultivation of flax.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.

PHILO-SCOTIA.

From the London Papers, March 7.

Brussels, Feb. 14. We learn here, with the utmost surprise, by the last letters from Spain, dated January 25, that the Court of Madrid, having received advice that a Dutch merchant fleet, in which were some ships laden with naval ammunition for the ports of France, sailed from the Texel under the convoy of some men of war, had been attacked and searched by the English Commodore Fielding, who had seized and conducted some of them to Spithead; the Court of Spain has resolved and declared, that in case the Dutch suffer the English to withhold all respect to the flag of their High Mightinesses, Spain will not pay the least regard to the Dutch convoys, but stop and search, without distinction, all Dutch ships although under convoy. This resolution may be attended with very bad consequences to the navigation and commerce of Holland, and the more so, as it may be expected that their ships will be taken in the Straights, and carried into the Spanish ports.

LONDON.

A friend of Captain Macbride has favoured us with the following interesting papers of the late affair near Gibraltar.

In consequence of the signal for the general chase, on the evening of the 16th, about four o'clock got within reach of the stern-chace guns of the enemy, which they plied as we advanced, but to little effect. At a quarter before five, being then about half a cable distant from one of them, she began with her quarter-guns upon our bows, by some accident took fire, and instantly blew up. Had this awful event taken place a few minutes later, we must have shared

her fate; it was impossible to avoid the wreck, great part falling athwart us; but we passed through it without any damage. Many small pieces fell on board, which wounded three men. The sails and rigging being wet with the rain, and at the instant a shower, it prevented the fiery matter that hung upon them taking effect. The sea was so agitated that it filled the decks with water; as the ship sailed into this chaos at the rate of nine knots an hour, it was impossible to distinguish if any of the unfortunate men were upon the wreck. The afore-mentioned ship was the St Domingo, of 70 guns and 600 men. Continued the pursuit, and between eight and nine, came up with one of the enemy's ships that had been engaged with the Defence. Found her mizen-mast gone and fire slack. Upon receiving two or three fires from us, the main-top-mast went over the side. Our mizen-top-mast being shot away, and rigging cut, the ship fell off and passed her; got her round again, and closed her as soon as possible. Advancing to her in a position in which we might have been much annoyed, was surprised at receiving no fire. I kept ours and hailed her; our heads being different ways, passed each other before we could get any reply. When got round to her again, and hailed her, I was answered that the Admiral did not intend to fight any more. I ordered them to haul down their ensign, and that I should send a boat on board, which was done. It returned with Don Francisco Melgatys, her Captain, from whom I found it was the Phoenix, of 80 guns and 700 men. Don Juan de Langara, the Commander in Chief, having his flag on board, was wounded. What has been their real loss, have not yet been able to learn. During the night the weather grew worse; when day broke, the condition of so large a ship a perfect wreck, no other ship in sight, and a gale of wind, I felt myself in a very interesting situation; with great risque I got about 100 men on board. The gale increasing, was obliged to lay to for the day and night. In the morning it moderated so that boat could pass, but having the small pox on board of the Bona-faute, I was unwilling to introduce an infection among them, which induced me to make the proposal, which is included to Admiral Langara. It was accepted with thanks, and executed with the utmost delicacy. Their conduct convinced me that my ideas of the honour of the Spanish officers were well founded; for, after the matter was settled, they assisted in refitting and navigating the ship to Gibraltar Bay.

Bona-faute, at Sea, Jan. 18, 1780.

The small pox being on board of his Majesty's ship Bona-faute, (of a malignant kind) the feelings of a British officer cannot allow him to introduce an infection even amongst his enemies. From this consideration, and the very gallant defence made by Admiral Langara, and his officers, Captain Macbride conveys that neither officers nor men shall be removed from the Phoenix, taken by his Britannic Majesty's ships Defence and Bona-faute. Admiral Langara being responsible for the conduct of his officers and men; and in case that we fall in with any Spanish or French ships of war, he will not suffer Lieutenant Thomas Louis, his officer, to be interrupted in conducting and defending the ship to the last extremity, agreeable to his orders. And if, meeting with superior force, the Phoenix should be retaken, and the Bona-faute fight her way clear, Admiral don Juan de Langara, his officers and men, are to hold themselves prisoners of war to Captain Macbride, upon their parole of honour, which he is confident with Spanish officers is ever sacred. Likewise, if the Bona-faute should be taken, and the Phoenix escape, the Admiral Don Juan de Langara, his officers, &c. will no longer be prisoners, but freed immediately. In short, they are to follow the fate of the Bona-faute.

(Signed) JOHN MACBRIDE.

JUAN IG. DE LANGARA.

It is said, that the grand object of M. de la Guichen's expedition to the Westward is agreeable to the plan of Count d'Estaing, and which also coincides with the earnest demand of the American Congress, which urges a participation in the plans agreeable to treaty, otherwise they are wasting their blood and property to no effect. —First, the French are to strengthen Martinique, and their other islands; thence to proceed to Cape St Nicholas, where, in conjunction with the Spanish West India fleet, they mean, as a feint, to attack Jamaica, with a view to draw out forces from other quarters to the defence of our islands. In the interim, the French fleet, with a considerable body of troops, are to sail and block up New-York, and, if practicable, to reduce it by a conjunction. This effected, they are to proceed to Halifax in the like manner, dispatching a fleet of large frigates to the mouth of the river St Lawrence to prevent succours being sent to Quebec.

The first-Lieutenant of Sir James Wallace's late ship, the Experiment, lately exchanged, is ordered to be tried for a non-performance of his duty during the time of her late action in America.

The Congress have made a law, specially, for Dr Franklin, to prevent his being moved by the routine so strictly observed upon all occasions by the Congress.

We have it from indisputable authority, that Paul Jones, in the Serapis, with the Countess of Scarborough and Vengeance, passed the Straights of Dover on the first of last January, within musket shot of our batteries, and brought to within a mile of the castle for the better part of the day, and that it was expected he would have fired at the town; his reason for not doing it was to avoid giving an alarm, but his being able to sail from the Texel into the Western Ocean, through our Channel, narrow as it is, and full as it ought to be in time of war with cruisers, proves either that we have not ships sufficient for the defence of our coasts, or that the Admiralty is deficient in its duty, and without information. London Park.

It is a certain fact, that all the French Generals in

France are abolished, and some of the most intelligent among them made Commissioners, in which that court followed the example of ours; for in King William's reign the farms of custom and excise were abolished, and the farmers made commissioners.

By the above alteration, the revenue of France will be improved, according to Neckar's account, 1,700,000l. sterling a year.

Extract of a letter from Crookhaven, Feb. 11.

"Isaiah Stewart, master of the Restoration, a transport victualler, from New York for Corke, put in here this day. He sailed with the fleet under convoy of the Solebay frigate on the 23d of December. He says he lost the fleet in a gale of wind in three days after their departure, and on the 3d of January, in lat. 37° N. and long. 57° W., a violent storm at sea struck him on the poop, and washed the carpenter and four of his hands overboard, (who all perished) it broke the securities of his ballast, so that it shifted, the vessel lying on her beam ends, and had like to be lost; that on the 5th of January he fell in with the Rachael, Thomas Rounding, one of the fleet, in the utmost distress, having five feet water in her hold; Captain Stewart stayed by her all night, giving her every possible assistance; but Captain Rounding and his crew, 28 in number, finding their utmost efforts could not keep the vessel from going down, were forced to quit her, without being able to save any thing except what they had on their backs. They were taken in by Captain Stewart, and brought in here."

Extract of a letter from Portsmouth, March 3.

"Yesterday morning a signal was made for all Captains on board the Victory, when the following were chosen to sit as Members on the Court Martial of Captain Boteler (late of the Ardent) tried for being taken by the French fleet, viz. Admiral Evans, President; Captains C. Allan, Sir Digby Dent, J. Dalrymple, Moutray, Cleland, Thompson, Fielding, Sir Charles Douglas, Nott, Goodall, K. Stewart, and Caldwell.

"The First Lieutenant was then called. The substance of his evidence proved, that from the time Captain Boteler was appointed to the Ardent, to her being taken by the French fleet, he behaved in no manner whatever unbecoming an officer and a seaman, but, on the contrary, exerted himself in every instance for the defence and equipping his ship; and when they were convinced it was the French fleet, he could act only as he did.

"The Third Lieutenant was the next witness examined, who gave evidence much against Captain Boteler, saying, in his opinion the ship might have been saved.—The trial is expected to continue two or three days longer."

Extract of another letter from Portsmouth, dated March 5.

"The evidence on the Captain of a man of war's trial lasted three days, until Saturday, and to-morrow is appointed for him to make his defence."

Extract of a letter from Cowes, March 4.

"This morning arrived here, a Dutch vessel, the master of which says, that he was brought to by a French privateer, within three leagues of this island, and whilst his passengers were examining, an English man of war appeared in sight, on which the Captain of the privateer ordered to make all the sail they could to get off. He says that there were three ransoms on board the privateer, and did not doubt but she would be taken, as the English ship was a very swift sailor."

INTELLIGENCE FROM LLOYD'S.

Plymouth, March 6. This morning, brought to at Spithead Admiral Digby, with his fleet, with the Prothe, French 64 gun ship, and three transports, bound to the Mauritius. The Ajax, French 64 gun ship, was in company with the above fleet, but by favour of the night escaped.

The Kitty, Kennedy, from New York to Newfoundland, is lost.

The Granada galley, Fendal, from New York to the Leeward Islands, was taken the 15th of September by a privateer from Boston, and carried into Martinico.

The Modeste, Bewher, from Liverpool to New York, having met with bad weather on the coast of America, is put into Astigia.

A sloop from Dublin to Belfast was lost the 24th ult. in a gale on the Rocks of Donegal; at the same time was wrecked the Three Sisters, Archdeacon, from Bristol to Belfast; it is hoped the vessel and part of her cargo will be saved; the Amazon privateer of Belfast is likewise on shore, and it is feared will be lost.

The Wells, Smith, from Limerick to Cowes, was taken and ransomed for 6300l. and afterwards run upon the Shingles in going into the Needles, but got off with little or no damage.

The Maria Margaretha, from Hamburg to Genoa and Leghorn, is taken by the Spaniards, and carried into Cadiz.

The St Antonio e Almas de Mattus, from Clyde to Havre de Grace, is put into Portsmouth with the loss of her cables and anchors, and other damage.

The Crook, Duffield, from London to Shields, is totally lost near Harley.

The Ann, Jackson, sailed from New York, 26th Dec. last, for South Carolina with the rest of the fleet; and the 26th ditto, in a hard gale of wind, the Lion armed ship ran foul of her, and carried away her main and mizen masts, and did her other considerable damage, drove over sea, and with great difficulty got into St Ives the 26th ult.

The Success, Dras, from New York to Oporto, is taken and carried into Vigo.

The Gustavus Adolphus, Harrison, is taken by a Spanish frigate, and carried into Cadiz the 18th of January; he was bound from Falmouth to Leghorn and Naples.

Yarmouth, March 4. Sailed the Ocean, Mitchel, for Hamburg, and the trade for Amsterdam, under convoy of the Fly sloop of War, Capt. Douglas; also sailed the Aurora, Watson, for Rotterdam, and about 200 barrels of corn and coal vessels, under convoy of the Fairy sloop, Capt. Agnew. Remain the Scourge sloop of war, Capt. Fortescue.

Liverpool, March 4. The Pallas privateer of this port, Captain Townshend, took on the 18th ult. in lat. 45°—10°, long. 7°—20°. La Anna, from Bordeaux for St Domingo, laden with 632 barrels of flour, 180 ditto of beef, 196 ditto, and 201 ditto pork, 2 pipes 30 casks oil, 75 barrels and 32 casks red and white wine, 72 firkins of butter, 53 casks brandy, and 224 lb. of pease, &c. &c. the prize arrived here yesterday.

The Nuova Cesarea, Petrina, from London, is arrived off Venice; on the 28th December the was visited by five Spanish men of war off Cadiz, who detained her four hours, then let her proceed; the was again visited the following day, as also on the 9th of January, off Majorca.

The Bella Venere, Zambella, from London to Venice, taken by the Spaniards, has been released, and sailed from Cadiz the 22d of Jan.



Office, March 7. 1780.

Sixty-seventh Regiment of Dragoon Guards, Cornet Charles Parkhurst is appointed to be Lieutenant, vice Sir Edward Manley Pryce. George Beauchamp Proctor, Gent. to be Cornet, vice Charles Parkhurst. James Hay, Gent. to be Cornet, vice Thomas Whinnyates.

1st Regiment of dragoons, Hospital Mate — Oliver to be Surgeon, vice Edward Horler.

4th Regiment of foot, Ensign George Johnson to be Lieutenant, vice Forbes Champayne. Edward Gibson, Gent. to be Ensign, vice Thomas Hyde.

7th Regiment of foot, Ensign — Helyar, of the 1st battalion 1st foot, to be Lieutenant in one of the Additional Companies, vice Charles Helyar.

2d Regiment of foot, Surgeon's Mate Owen Owen to be Surgeon, vice Patrick Grant.

13th Regiment of foot, Ensign Hugh Houston to be Lieutenant, vice Thomas Hay. John Balneaves, Gent. to be Ensign, vice Hugh Houston.

16th Regiment of foot, Captain Thomas Murray, of 48th foot, to be Captain, vice Henry Eglington Connor.

48th Regiment of foot, Captain John Hedges to be Major; vice Sir James Cockburn. Lieutenant William Horns to be Captain, vice John Hedges. Lieutenant William Atkinson to be Captain, vice Thomas Murray.

63d Regiment of foot, William Townend Mullins, Gent. to be Ensign, vice George Connor.

87th Regiment of foot, Ensign Edward Lascelles to be Lieutenant, vice J. Sackville Higgins.

9th Regiment of foot, Ensign James Burgess, of 18th foot, to be Lieutenant.

93d Regiment of foot, Francis Clapp, Gent. to be Ensign.

Welsh regiment of Fencible Men, Ensign Donald McNevin to be Lieutenant, vice Godfrey Macneil.

Southern regiment of Fencible Men, Captain Lieutenant John Plenderleath to be Captain, vice John Rutherford. Sir William Maxwell, Bart. to be Captain-Lieutenant, vice John Plenderleath. Lieutenant Sir Alexander Levington, Bart. to be Captain, vice Alexander Doss. Quarter-master Mathew Dove, of the Cinque Ports corps, to be Lieutenant, vice Sir Alexander Levington. Sergeant-major James Christie, of 23d foot, to be Quarter-master, vice John Stenhouse. Charles Sharp, Gent. to be Lieutenant, vice Andrew Wight. Quarter-master Mathew Dove, of the Cinque Ports corps, to be Adjutant, vice Sir Alexander Levington.

Adino Paddock, Esq; to be Captain in the Island of Jersey only.

94th Regiment of foot, James Dundas, Esq; to be Colonel.

Captain Mackay Hugh Baillie, of the 73d foot, to be Major.

To be Captains, Lieutenant William Dick, of 2d foot. Lieutenant William John Hale, of 45th foot. Lieutenant Alexander Hay, of 62d foot. Lieutenant John Cunningham, of 83d foot. Lieutenant George Ramsay, of 36th foot. Lieutenant John Crankhams, of 13th foot.

To be Lieutenants, Ensign Arthur Forbes, of 57th foot. Ensign Richard Landreth, of 77th foot. Ensign Simon Frazer, of the invalids. Ensign Robert Netter Campbell, of 49th foot. Ensign James Myne, of 2d foot. H. Thomas, Gent.

To be Ensigns, Lieutenant Archibald Douglas, from Dutch service. Lieutenant Charles Bremer, from Dito. Thomas Hardyman, late a Lieutenant in 1st foot. John Campbell, late of Dutch service. Thomas Castello, Gent. — Hardyman, Gent. — Montgomery, Gent.

James Tomlinson, Clerk, to be Chaplain.

Lieutenant Archibald Douglas, from Dutch service, to be Adjutant. Quarter-master Sergeant Fitzgerald, of 18th foot, to be Quarter-master.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, Wednesday, March 8.

Deferred the Committee on Ways and Means and Supply till Friday. Lord George Gordon renewed his objections to Mr Burke's plan; and, as he wished to see the petitions attended to, he moved, "That instructions be given to the committee on the bill for regulating his Majesty's civil list, to try whether it was necessary to maintain the offices of Auditor and Tellers of his Majesty's Exchequer; to abolish them; if possible, and to convert to the public service the savings that might accrue from their abolition, in order to alleviate the burdens of the people."

This motion was seconded by Mr Jolliffe.

Mr Adams thought the matter might as well be agitated in the committee.

Mr Alderman Sawbridge begged the noble Lord would withdraw his motion, as unnecessary, there being a clause in the bill, in which the Auditor and Teller of the Exchequer were mentioned; and if the committee should think proper to abolish their offices, it was very competent to it.

Lord George Gordon replied, that it was true there was such a clause, but it was in the 16th page of the bill, and he trusted the Committee would never go so far in it.

Mr Burrell said, the motion should meet his support, and begged leave to throw out a few general observations on the petitions. The people of England had a right to petition Parliament, which he trusted no Englishman would dare to dispute; but he also held it as indisputable, that every subject had a right to speak his sentiments, uncontrolled by any set of men, be their rank ever so high, or abilities ever so great; this right he found contested by some gentlemen, who made it criminal to speak against petitions. Yet he knew of no way to collect the voice of the majority of the people, but by the majority of the freeholders; and he believed; that not above an eighth of that description of men had signed the petitions.

It afforded him matter of astonishment that men could be found hardly enough to deny the right of the people to recommend to Parliament the strictest economy, at a time when the nation was engaged in a most expensive war with France, Spain, and America. But he wished to know how far the petitioners had been right in advising their representatives to use all their endeavours to alleviate the public burdens. Could the most rigid economy lessen a single tax that now lay upon the shoulders of the people? Must not the interest of the national debt be paid?

What, that to be done by an abolition of taxes?

Many persons, he knew, had been induced to sign the petitions from views which it was absolutely impossible to gratify. In divers places, two petitions had been presented: the one moderate, proper, and respectful; the other absurd in its object, and impracticable in its effects. It had been a practice to say to the people, If you sign the latter, all your taxes will be abolished in a fortnight; if you sign the former, you will not have a bed to lie on in a month. An ignorant man had not the least ground for hesitation. His choice was soon made. Thus, by deception, the number of subscribers to improper petitions had been swelled. This he said not from a disapprobation of petitioning in general (for he had himself signed a petition the week before) but from a desire to check those who either designedly, or ignorantly had mistaken the proper objects.

Mr Hulley said, his blood ran cold to hear the Honourable Member declare, that it was from the majority of Freeholders that the sentiments of the people were to be learned. The freeholders, if numbered, would be found to make but an inconsiderable share of the people of England; yet, the Honourable Member sat at no time the opinion of those who had not votes at elections for counties. This was a doctrine which he could not listen to, without entering his warmest protest against it.

General Conway also made some remarks on Mr Burrell's arguments.

Another motion was then made and seconded, for the order of the day.

Mr Rigby said, he had a proposition which he was afraid the forms of the House would preclude him from making, as the order of the day had been made and seconded. On a former occasion, he had declared his intentions to deliver his sentiments on the bill which was then going to be committed. He requested the attention therefore of the House, while he should endeavour to discharge his promise. There were in the bill, he said, some parts which should meet his warmest concurrence; he meant those relative to passing the accounts in the Exchequer, particularly with respect to his office. The plan proposed would greatly accelerate this purpose, and take off from him and those in his office a large share of public obloquy. For, though profits might be derived from having balance always lying in one's hands, yet the pleasure and quietus of having passed accounts, would more than compensate for the loss of the profits. A pay-master lay under a particular odium, ever since Alderman Beckford had, within those walls, called Lord Holland a public defaulter of unaccounted millions; yet the appellation was as unmerited as it was odious. During the life of Lord Holland, he (Mr Rigby) had taken some trouble to learn, if his

Lordship really withheld his accounts. He put the question to the two deputy-auditors, who told him, that Lord Holland always had twice as much accounts ready for them (though they had nothing else to do) as they were able to audit. Neither Lord Holland nor his executors, therefore, had been defaulters. They had their accounts to offer; but the forms of the Exchequer delayed the proceedings. It was the case with himself; he could not therefore, but support a measure which should end his cares, by hastening the passing his accounts.

But, ready as he was to support some parts of the bill, there were others which he found himself inclined to condemn. He had his doubts of the power of Parliament to resume, without cause, any part of the revenue, which had been settled on his Majesty, at his accession to the Throne, in lieu of those revenues which had formerly been the hereditary support of the Crown. He had given his vote to the act which had established the fund for the support of the civil list; and he did not know whether Parliament could resume their grant without injustice. If any abuse of that grant had been proved, his doubts would have been removed, but no abuse appeared. It was indeed said, that the influence of the Crown has of late years increased. Perhaps he also thought so; but the increase had been accidental. The doubling and trebling of our fleets and armies had extended the influence; but if war had fuelled it beyond its ordinary bounds, peace would restore it to its usual size. He had been one of those who had thought that the Crown had lost by accepting 800,000 £ a-year for the civil list, instead of its hereditary revenues. How then could he think of taking from that sum, unless it could be proved that abuses had crept into the expenditure? The property of the Crown being secured by law, was as sacred as that of any private individual; and he could not reconcile to justice the taking away the royal patrimony without cause.

It had been proposed to abolish the offices of Auditor and Tellers of the Exchequer. He would as soon vote for taking away one of the three estates, or to abolish or resume the ancient grants of the Crown to the Dukes of Grafton and Richmond; he would as soon vote off their heads, as the private property they enjoy under the sanction of an act of Parliament. He wished that the property of the Crown might be held sacred. If reformation is necessary, in the name of God, said he, begin with those offices, the salaries of which are said to be too great: Begin with nine; take the half of it; nay, take the whole, but spare the Crown. If the whole of my salary should be taken from me, it would not make me quit my office a day sooner; and I should be happy if the sacrifice of my private emoluments should guard from violation and injustice the property and prerogative of the Crown.

As to the petitions, said he, they are what the subjects have a right to prefer; but their containing a prayer is a proof that Parliament has the power to reject them. Their language is respectful enough; but still it is not the language of all the people of England. In the county where I live (Essex) people could not be induced to sign one. It is true, indeed, that one has been handed about, but the Freeholders all rejecting it, its title was changed to that of "The Petition of Persons paying Taxes." Success, however, has not attended this alteration; so that it may be fairly deduced from this refusal to sign in the county where I live, that a petition may be a very respectable thing in York-shire, and very contemptible in Essex.

Mr Rigby concluded with a resolution to the following purport, which he said he would submit to the House the first opportunity: "Resolved, That it is unjust to deprive the Crown of its property, rights, and prerogatives, before due proofs are exhibited, that, by flagrant abuses, the measures be rendered necessary."

Mr Fox replied, That if such a resolution should pass, there would be an end of English liberty. He was of a ductile mind, and would endeavour to suit it to despotism; but let him make what efforts he could, out of their walls, (and he trusted he should behave like a man) within them he was determined never to open his mouth again in favour of liberty.

Many Gentlemen of the minority endeavoured to prove, That however they might agree in principle with Mr Rigby, they thought it dangerous to pass any resolution on abstract propositions. Of these sentiments were the Attorney General and Lord Beauchamp.

Mr Rigby, fired by Mr Fox's observation, said, he would not be told in that house, or elsewhere, that he was capable of giving a stab to the liberty of his country. Not a man in England held his country's liberties dearer than he did; but he contended he was defending those liberties, by defending the prerogative of the Crown, and preventing monarchy from being pared down. He would not be terrified from his purpose by one side of the House, or coaxed from it by the other, but was determined to put his motion, if the order of the day should be discharged.

The order of the day being then called for, there appeared for it 203, against it 199: majority 4.

The House next resolved itself into a committee on Mr Burke's bill, Mr Elwes in the chair.—The first clause being levelled against the Secretaryship for the American department:

Lord George Germain said, that the abolishing of this office would not be a saving to the public of more than 5000 £ a-year, three of which was his own salary, the rest went to clerks, &c. but he could inform the House there was no absolute Secretary for the Colonies, for his patent was one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

This objection gave rise to a number of amendments to the first clause, in order to model it so as to make it go down. Mr Burke at length moved an amendment, "That two Secretaries of State are sufficient for the duties of that office." This was debated till twenty-five minutes after two o'clock in the morning, when the committee divided.

For Mr Burke's amendment. 201
Against it. 208

Majority, 7

The principal speakers against the bill were Lord Beauchamp, Lord North, Lord George Gordon, Lord Advocate of Scotland, Mr Mansfield, Mr Rigby, and Mr Charles Jenkinson.—On the other side, Mr Burke, Mr Fox, Mr Dunning, Lord Ongley, and Mr Thomas Townshend.

Sir Robert Salisbury Cotton, Bart. lately elected Knight of the Shire for the county of Chester, took the oath and his seat in the House, to which he was introduced by John Crewe, and Richard Wilbraham Bootle, Esqrs.

From the London Papers, March 9.
L O N D O N .
Extract of some private letters brought by the last mails from Holland.

" We have accounts from Paris that a squadron of six ships of the line is fitting out at Brest for a secret expedition, most probably in North-America. It is said the Count de Ternay will have the command of this fleet, which will have 2000 men on board. The same accounts add, that Mr De Guichen sailed on the second of this month with his fleet, which is composed of two ships of 80 guns, nine of 74, and six of 64, besides two frigates and two cutters, and escorts about 80 merchant ships. The fitting out of the naval force goes on with the utmost expedition, and there will be in the spring 36 ships of the line, besides the Spanish squadron, which doubt will return.

" The Commissioners who were charged by the States of Holland with the examination of the two last memorials of the English Ambassador, regarding the required succour, have delivered in their report to their High Mightinesses on that head; in which they say, among the rest, that it is a principle adopted by all the world, that if two parties have made a contract, and one of the two do not fulfil the stipulated engagements, the other is no longer bound; that England first violated the treaty of 1674; besides which they could not find out the *catus foderis*; so that they were of opinion, that the Republic was not obliged to furnish Great-Britain with the succours the requires. This report having been taken *ad referendum* by the deputies of the corps of Nobles, and those of most of the towns, it was not brought into the Assembly of the States-General with the other affairs.

" The plan giving in by the different Admiralties to the

States for the new equipment for 1780, and which the State of Holland so strongly support, is to fit out 52 men of war, two of 70 guns, six of 60, 12 of 50, and 27 frigates, with five guard costals. Those ships will employ 13,870 sailors, and will cost five millions and a quarter of florins, half of which is to be found in the *Zaft & vyl Geld*, and the other half by quotas from the different provinces.

" Their High Mightinesses have communicated this plan to the Council of State, requiring that corps to prepare a particular petition on this subject, setting forth the very urgent necessity of this equipment; &c. This petition is to be sent to the respective Confederates, with a letter from their High Mightinesses, to exhort them to give their assent to it, and to furnish their quota towards the fitting out of the equipment as soon as possible. If this be carried into execution, as most people think it will, the Republic will have a naval force of 77 men of war, including the 25 now in commission, which will be sufficient for it to make a very respectable figure among the maritime Powers.

" It is said the Court of Stockholm has offered the Republic 4000 sailors for their intended fleet of 52 ships.

" It is said the States-General have taken a resolution relative to the opinion of the States of Holland touching the remonstrances to be made to Great-Britain, with regard to the affair of the convoy carried into Spithead. This resolution is, it is said, a great measure conformable to the advice which the Admiralties have given to their High Mightinesses on this affair, and which, contrary to all former customs, and even in direct opposition to some placards which very severely forbid the publication of those kind of things, has appeared in all the public papers. The States-General have delivered a copy to the English Ambassador to send to his court, and have sent one to their Ambassadors at London to present to the British ministry. It has been observed, that, in the said resolution, no mention is made of an unlimited convoy, although the States of Holland insist much upon it. There are many people now who think that instead of the English having insulted the Dutch flag, that the former was insulted by the latter, as they say, in the fifth article of the treaty of 1674, which has been so much proclaimed, the two contracting powers reserve to themselves mutually the right of examining the ships of their reciprocal subjects, without any mention whatever being made of a convoy; Commodore Fielding in consequence used this right, which Count Byland opposed, and even fired at the other, it was the English flag that was insulted."

Yesterday, about half past five o'clock, his Royal Highness Prince William Henry, arrived at the Queen's Palace from Portsmouth, and was joyfully received by their Majesties and all the Royal family.

No less than thirteen ships of the line have failed, within the last three months to join the fleet on the Leeward Island station, viz. four under Arbuthnot, from New-York; the Hector, from Rodney's squadron, with the convoy, to the West-Indies; the Intrepid and Triumph, from Portsmouth, with convoys, and two more single ships, with convoys from Cork, and the trade from Bristol, Liverpool and Scotland, and four with Admiral Rodney. Seventeen sail of the line were under the command of Admiral Hyde Parker when the last dispatches came away, at which time none of the vessels here mentioned had joined him. When they arrive he will have thirty sail; but it is said the French have at present that number there, and that they are to be increased to forty.

The four new-raised regiments, which are embodied, and supposed to be destined for the West-Indies, are, Earl of Harrington's, Colonel James Dundas's, Colonel Stuart's, and Colonel McCormick's.

The men of war which are arrived at Portsmouth and Plymouth have received orders to take on board six months more provisions as soon as possible.

The convoy appointed to see the outward-bound transports and victuallers to Gibraltar have received orders to hold themselves in readiness to sail the 20th instant from Portsmouth.

On the 29th ult ten sail of French merchant ships, under convoy of two frigates, from St Domingo for Rochelle, put into Bourdeaux, having got clear from a fleet of frigates and armed ships, which chased them for eight hours.

Lieut. Forest of the Ajax, the only sea officer killed in the late engagement off Gibraltar, was son to the gallant Commodore Forest, and promised fair to become an ornament to his country.

Advice is received at the East-India house, that the Southampton East-Indiaman, Capt. Lennox, the Nassau, Capt. Gore; and the Moira, Capt. Kent, were all on their passage to England, and soon expected in the Downs.

The final answer which Lord North gave to the Committee of the East-India company was that he could not, as Prime Minister, agree to the propositions which they presented to him, but that he should, in consequence of the Company having refused those which had passed between his Lordships and the directors, be for having the business agitated in Parliament.

The Court Martial at Portsmouth, on the conduct of Captain Boteler, for the loss of the Ardent man of war, gave their verdict on Tuesday last, by which the Captain is said to be dismissed the service, and deemed unfit for future employ in his Majesty's navy. The other officers are acquitted.

The spirit with which it is said the young Prince enters into sea affairs endears him to every one in the service; and from the coolness and intrepidity of his behaviour in the late action off St Mary's, there is every reason to expect he will prove an ornament and honour to his country, and in due time be equal to one of the highest offices in the naval department.

A Court of Common Council was yesterday held at Guildhall, when a motion was made, seconded, and agreed to unanimously, That the freedom of the city be presented in a gold box to Sir George Brydges Rodney, Bart. Rear Admiral and Commander in Chief at Gibraltar, as a grateful sense entertained by that Court of the important victory gained by him over the Spanish squadron commanded by Don Juan Langara, on the 16th and 17th days of January last; the box to be of the value of one hundred guineas.

E D I N B U R G H .

that there is not the least apparent danger of it being lost. By the above mail, advice is also received that Admiral Parker has since his last accounts were dispatched, captured a Spanish man of war of 54 guns.—That the ships which were taken by Captain Luttrell, at Fort Omoa, are all arrived at Jamaica; and that Capt. Luttrell, is proceeding with the Jamaica fleet, which sailed from thence the 24th of January last, under convoy of the Leviathan and Charon men-of-war.

" Sir George Rodney is to proceed to Barbadoes, where he will meet our fleet, which has orders to rendezvous at that island, in order to strike a blow of consequence at the French interest in that part of the world.

" The merchants expect good news from General Clinton's expedition to the southward, even the most moderate among them fix upon the 20th instant, as the latest time for such accounts arriving.

" In the House of Commons, Lord Mulgrave having, a few days ago, given notice that he would, on this day, move for the second reading of the bill for preventing desertion from the navy,

" Mr Turner, conceiving that an order had been made in consequence of that notice, and thinking that the noble Lord was then going to move for its being read, requested that he would not then go into the second reading, but defer it to another day. His reason for making the request was, that an account having been ordered by the House, of the number of men who had entered into the Royal Navy, with the officers commanding the press-gangs, &c. he wished the bill might not be discussed before that list should be produced.

" Lord Mulgrave said, he had no objection to comply with the Honourable Gentleman's request; he would fix a distant day for the second reading; but as he was obliged to go out of town for his health, and as it might perhaps not be in his power to return by the day fixed, he would take the liberty to ask a friend to move for putting it off a second time, if he should be detained in the country beyond the time he should fix for the second reading.

" Sir George Yonge said, the bill was of such a nature that it ought to be rejected upon the very first reading; there was not a single principle in it which was not injurious to liberty; and therefore he would be glad to have it then before the House, that it might meet with that fate which it deserved.

" Lord Mulgrave wished to have the bill fairly discussed in a full House. He had framed it in the best manner he could; he had brought it into Parliament at the desire of many of his brother officers, and was satisfied that the principle of it at least was good. The House might add to, or take from it, as they might think fit; he would not oppose any amendment that should tend to promote the object of the bill. He was not bigoted to any one clause in it. But the necessity of the bill—he felt, both from his own experience and that of many old seamen. The want of such a bill made officers inflict punishments at which their feelings, as men, revolted. However necessary they might think it to let the men go on shore, yet they felt themselves obliged to keep them on board, lest their ships should be deserted. The temptations thrown in the way of seamen to desert, were such, that it required more resolution to resist them than that description of men were generally possessed of. The bill, by removing these temptations, would be of infinite service both to the navy and to the seamen, who would be guarded by it from the commission of those crimes, which were always attended with punishments that made humanity shudder.

" Admiral Keppel said, no seaman could go before him, in wishing that desertion might be prevented rather than punished. The title of the bill therefore pleased him much; but it contained not a clause which did not call for his disapprobation. The principle of the bill was good, but the clauses militated so strongly against the principle, that he heartily wished the bill might be rejected.

" Mr T. Luttrell contended, that the bill was not suited to the title, or the title to the bill. The noble Lord, when he drew up the bill, ought to have called it a bill to encourage desertion, and unman the navy. And if it was carried down to any of the sea-ports, he would not be answerable for the consequences. If the treatment of the men on board his Majesty's ships were better, he was convinced that the number of desertions would be very inconsiderable. The noble Lord ought not to be surprised at the great number of deserters. If he should cause the men to be better paid, the service would be more resorted to, and fewer would desert from it. It was a fact well known, and which he could easily prove, that there were actually thousands in the navy, to whom full three years wages were due. The nation had paid the money; and by an account then on the table, it appeared, that the Treasurer of the navy, had then in his hands a balance of 200,000l. of the money voted last year for the wages of seamen. The men were turned over from ship to ship; their wages were with-held; while the money remained unemployed in the hands of the Treasurer.

" Mr Dunning expressed the greatest disapprobation of the bill; it was a direct attack upon the liberty of the subject, and it seemed equal to him whether it was discussed in a thin or a full House; because he was sure, that, full or thin, it must be rejected. He requested the noble Lord would bring it on to-morrow; but, if he was disinclined to that, he wished he would not bring it on too soon after the holidays, before the members should return to town; nor yet too late, lest they should be gone again.

" After some conversation, it was at length agreed, that the second reading should be brought on to-morrow, if Lord North should not lay the taxes before the House, which it was imagined he would not do."

INTELLIGENCE FROM LLOYDS, MARCH 9.

The Star, McCarty, from London, to Gibraltar, was taken in the Gatt the 4th inst.

The Mary, Richard, from Milford to Preston, was totally lost the 25th ult. at Holyhead, and every person on board, except the Captain, perished.

The Field, Scott, from Liverpool to London, is taken by the Mon-sieur privateer, and carried into Port l'Orient.

The Stag privateer of Jersey, has taken and sent into that port, an American schooner, with 150 Hhds. tobacco, some slaves, ginger, &c.

Liverpool, March 6. The Stag privateer has sent in here the Black Lyon, a French ship from Bordeaux to the West Indies, with provisions, &c. She was one of a fleet of 22 sail, under convoy of 2 frigates.

Yesterday arrived here, the Happy Return, Wm Web, from Port l'Orient for Plymouth, with 300 prisoners, who took the ship from the Captain and crew, and brought her into this port, to escape being pressed. Several of the people belonging to the Bellona of London came in her; as also the crew of the Bes, Walker, from hence for Tobago, captured by the frigate Monsieur, three days after she sailed from this place.

Yesterday, at Yester-house in East Lothian, the lady of William Hay, Esq; was safely delivered of a son.

The farce of *The Twins*, altered by Mr Woods from Shakespeare's Comedy of Errors, and performed on Saturday evening at the Theatre-Royal, was received with great applause by a numerous and polite audience. The Prologue, written by Mr Woods, was done the greatest justice to by Mrs Smith, and both merited and met with repeated marks of the highest approbation.

This day came on before the High Court of Justiciary here, the trial of David and William Dalglish, accused of committing a robbery a little west of the Fountainbridge, on the 1st February last. It being objected by Mr Robert Dundas, one of their counsel, that the libel was irrelevant, in respect no mention was made of the particular county or parish where the robbery was committed, the Lords unanimously sustained the objection. The diet was therefore deferred *pro loco et tempore*; and, upon a petition from the Advocate Depute, a new warrant was granted for recommitting the pannels to prison, till liberated in due course of law.

We are happy to inform our readers, that Margaret Philp, who was unfortunately imprisoned, on an accusation of having murdered her own child, as mentioned in our pa-

per of Wednesday last, was this day dismissed and liberated from prison, as after a pre-conviction taken, it appeared the accusation was without just foundation.

Extract of a letter from Dublin, March 3.

" Last night there was a general illumination in this city, on account of the passing the bill in England for granting to this kingdom a free trade with the American colonies, the West Indies, and the coast of Africa: the guns of the salute battery in the Park were fired, and answered by a feu de joie by the garrison.

" An Irish gentleman of fortune in London has, we hear, undertaken for a wager of 100 guineas, to produce a man that will go from London to Dublin, and back again, in five days."

Extract of a letter from Limerick, Feb. 28

" Mr Hartney, of the Betley and Sally of Limerick, bound from hence to London, has put into Portsmouth. On her passage met a sloop belonging to Poole, from Newfoundland, in great distress, having lost three of her men; the master, Mr George Clark, and three others, being disabled by the frost, begged of Mr Hartney to save their lives, which he did, and the sloop went down.

" The Wells, Smith, bound from Limerick to Cowes, with 1600 barrels of beef and pork, was taken by a French privateer the day after she sailed."

Extract of a letter from Newcastle, March 6.

" Friday last was performed here the tragedy of Hamlet, for the benefit of the Charity for relief of poor lying-in Women at their own houses. The part of Hamlet by Nicholson Stuart, Esq; and that of the Ghost by Capt. Morris. The pit and boxes were crowded with a genteel audience.—As a Ghost is what the French call *bors d'œuvre*, and it is very difficult to say what latitude it may take, we cannot pretend to judge of that performance; but, according to the liberties allowed it on the English stage, (which is the element of Ghosts) we really think that Gentleman made a very good one; but we leave the critical discussion of this business to those who are better acquainted with the rights and privileges of supernatural agents.

" Mr. Stuart seemed very much disconcerted, and more so than could have been expected from a gentleman who had before appeared upon the stage; yet notwithstanding, in the several soliloquies in many parts of the play, and particularly in the closet scene with the Queen Mother, a resemblance to a late incomparable actor was so irresistibly striking, as to have a visible effect upon the whole audience. Whether this resemblance in Mr. Stuart is accident or design, we cannot pretend to determine, as he seems to carry along with him the conceptions of that astonishing original; and the likeness does by no means barely consist (as most imitations do) in voice and deportment, though we must say the former, on many occasions, come so near to that of Mr. Garrick, that we cannot help thinking, at least, that Mr. Stuart has been a great enthusiast.—After the Play, Mr. Stuart spoke an Epilogue, in compliment to that illustrious genius, which did honour to his memory.

" An extraordinary circumstance attends this gentleman; although a North Briton, yet, through the whole character of Hamlet, he did not utter one tone of a Scotchman. This could not fail to attract the notice of many people of fashion, and good judges, who were present. It will surprise the more, when told that, in conversation, Mr. Stuart speaks remarkably broad, and has the northern dialect as strong as any of his countrymen; nay, it is said, he can only throw it aside on theatrical occasions. How came it then, (that in plain prose, in the ornamental speeches of Hamlet, entirely strip of the pomp of blank verse, and reduced to easy natural dialogue) that this gentleman never trip'd, nor, by the most minute asperiment, betrayed the cloven foot? We dwell on this circumstance, as it is a very uncommon one. There is no reason why a Scotchman should not be a good actor; but in twelve hundred thousand people, which Scotland is supposed to contain, we have but one instance of the dialect being entirely laid aside. The Attorney General is allowed by every Englishman to speak the language in its utmost purity. Lord Mansfield, though often adduced, is by no means an instance in point; a child born at Petersburg, and remaining there till seven years of age, then brought to Paris, will be as much a Frenchman at seventeen as if he had never been without its walls: This is exactly his Lordship's case. Though born in Scotland, he left that country when the infant organs were in a state of flexibility, ready to receive any impression that the ear might give; for, though a child at seven years speaks (apparently) with as determined an accent as a lad of seventeen, the wax is yet warm, and we can mould it at will; but the other is arrived at that stage when the organs have lost their subtlety, are no longer mutable, and that stamp (which determines and discriminates all the tones, accents, and dialects of the astonishing phenomenon which we call Language) is indelibly fixed. Thus, then, that sublime orator is entirely out of this question. And thus stands our account: In twelve hundred thousand, we have found two that can perfectly divest themselves of the Scotch dialect. There may be many; we are ever open to conviction; but must beg leave to remain in doubt till we have aural demonstration.—Upon the whole: It will be allowed us, (without offence to our brave fellow-subjects in the northern part of this island) that a Scotchman who is able to rid himself entirely of the dialect of his country, is, at least, *rara avis in terris.*"

Theatre Royal, March 13.

Mr. Wilkinson's season concludes on Wednesday next, when he is under the necessity of returning to England. Benefits begin on Tuesday March 21.

The support and encouragement the Theatre has lately received, demand his warmest acknowledgments. Such repeated obligations, conferred on him by the Nobility, Gentry, and Public in general, inspire him with a grateful sense of their favours. Honoured by their patronage, he begs leave to inform them, that he intends returning at the Races, and hopes, by his assiduity and attention, to merit their future kindness and approbation.

EAST LOTHIAN.

THE Committee for the internal defence of the county, in virtue of the powers vested in them by former general meetings, do earnestly request, that the Heritors of that county will meet at Haddington on Thursday the 23d current, when the Committee will report what progress they have had in that matter.

FIARS for the County of EAST LOTHIAN, Crop 1779.

	First.	Second.	Third.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beef Wheat,	25 0	24 4	23 13
Barley,	11 4	9 10	9 6
Oats,	9 8	9 2	8 7
Pease,	8 12	7 4	6 11

To the Printer of the Caledonian Mercury.

S I R,

CROSS-READINGS being, like desired Plays, in vogue at present, I think the Mercury ought to patronise such attempts at public amusement. If the following merit a place, the author will not blame himself for having spent half an hour in compiling them.

I am, Sir, your's, &c.

On Monday will be exposed to sale the Street Dung—

and is daily expected to be reinforced by neutral bottoms.

The effusion of blood from one of the wounds had like to prove fatal—But was stopped by an act for the purpose.

He was executed at Tyburn pursuant to his sentence—

Being his first appearance in that character.

He was married on Sunday last—

Accidents of this kind are more frequent in warm weather.

The act orders each to be bound seven years,—

being an infallible cure for a looseness.

This evening, a fire was discovered

It is hoped no one will make light of this discovery.

Sunday last, a poor woman was taken in labour,

The cause of this rash action is attributed to love.

The gibbet was erected near the same place—

Entitled, The Highwayman's Vade Mecum.

Provisions being at present very scarce,

A fall is appointed to be kept in Scotland,

The Society of the Pantheon unanimously agreed—

a phenomenon scarcely ever heard of.

His Majesty the King of France lately

fell down upon a poor woman in the Cowgate.

W. D. gives notice to his creditors,

This being the last night of his appearance here.

Wednesday last, a poor woman was drowned

with her full complement of marines.

By desire of the Gentlemen Students of Medicine—

The colds caught this season have been very fatal

Several forgeries have lately been committed—

Specimens to be had at the booksellers shops.

The lottery will begin drawing in September—

the first number may be returned, if not agreeable.

A most uncommon noise was heard last night at

Mr Schetky's concert of music.

He died universally regretted—

for further particulars enquire above.

His Lordship concluded his speech with—

bonfires and every other demonstration of joy.

As Wednesday is the fast day preceding the sacrament.

The majority appeared in favor of commencing.

The sword of State was carried—

by a majority of 23.

By Desire of the Gentlemen of the Wig Club—

He has lately imported a quantity of new hair.

The Masons will hold their annual grand lodge—

A new edition of Satan's Invisible World Discovered.

To Mr Nolton Surgeon, Goldsmith Square—

And (by desire) the Mock Doctor.

The mob at last began to throw stones—

" What more weighty arguments, My Lord, could they bring?"

Saturday the two footpads, formerly mentioned, were admitted to the degree of Master of Arts.

Yesterday at three o'clock, the Speaker took the chair—

and dashed out his antagonist's brains.

Immediately on this Lord George Gordon rose—

to such a height that several chaises were blown down.

The speech delivered in the Pantheon on the question—

did no other damage than frightening all present.

Several boxes of tea and sugar were seized—

Places for the boxes to be taken of Mr Burt at the Theatre.

PRICES of GRAIN at HADDINGTON, March 4.

Firs.	Second.	Third.
Wheat, 15s. 6d.	14s. 9d.	13s. 4d.
Barley, 11s. od.	10s. 6d.	9s. od.
Oats, 10s. 2d.	9s. 6d.	7s. 8d.
Peas, 8s. 6d.	7s. 6d.	6s. 9d.

Leith Shipping.

Arrived, The Thomas, Grant, from Berwick, with grain; and the Joseph, Somervell, from Morison's Haven, with goods. Sailed, the Friendship, Denoon; Star, Ritchie; and the Diligence, Shaw; all for London, under convoy of the Alfred armed ship. Also, the Peggy and Jessie, Brown, for Guernsey, with goods; and the Africa Tender, for the Nore, with impounded men. Wind S. W. Blows hard.

C U S T O M - H O U S E , G R E E N O C K .

Ships.	Masters.	Whence.	Cargo.
March 8. Hamilton,	Alexander,	Watford,	goods.
Amelia,	Sayer,	ditto,	ditto.
g. James & Sally, Hamilton,	Douglas,	Carrickfergus,	ditto.
Favourite,		Belfast,	ditto.

FINE DAMASK and DIAPER.

AS some Suits of fine Damask and Diaper, and a few of the single Table Cloths, made under the inspection and for account of the deceased James Guthrie, Esq; are still on hand, they will now be sold by private bargain, at the Trustees Office in the Exchange, to those who shall first apply. The suits which were formerly sold at the prime cost of Eleven Guineas, will now be disposed of at Eight Pounds Sterling, and the other articles low in proportion; so that private families cannot have a better opportunity of being provided; and even manufacturers will find their account in purchasing up the articles now to be disposed of.—Apply to Mr Moubray, at the Office.

LEADHILL TURNPIKE.

THE TOLLS at the toll-bar at Biggar and Hartside, on the Leadhill turnpike-road, are to be SET for one year from Whitunday next, by public roup, in the house of Thomas Wilson vintner in Biggar, upon Thurdly the 20th day of April next, at 12 o'clock mid-day.

The Trustees are requested to attend a General Meeting then to be held, to take under consideration the lowering the present toll-duties levied at said toll-bars.

R. NEWBIGGERING, Clk.

To be LET for one or more years from Whitunday next,

THE HOUSE, Offices, Garden, and Inclosure,
at the back of the Meadow, being the second entry to the east of the middle Walk, presently possessed by Lord Auchinleck. To be seen on Tuesdays and Fridays, between twelve and two o'clock.

For further particulars, apply to Colquhoun Grant writer to the signet.

INTIMATION to CREDITORS.

THE Trustees appointed for the Creditors of HENRY NIMMO Skinner at Eastburn of Falkirk being desirous of making a dividend of the money recovered from the said Henry Nimmo's effects, intimation is hereby made for such of the creditors as have not already lodged a state of their debts, specifying the particular vouchers thereof, and their date of verity thereon, to lodge the same with Peter Henderson writer in Falkirk, one of the said trustees, on or before the 21st day of March next, that a proper scheme of division may be fitted, and a dividend made soon thereafter, certifying such creditors as fail to comply with this intimation that they will be cut off from any share of the funds then to be divided.

N. B. Those who are indebted to the said Henry Nimmo are desired immediately to pay their debts to the said Peter Henderson, certifying those who fail, that they will be prosecute according to law.

W A N T E D.

A HOUSE-CARPENTER and a COOPER,
for the WEST INDIES.—As encouragement, they will go with the person whom they are to serve, who will leave this country in a few weeks.—Enquire at William Fetter merchant, Edinburgh.

T H E

EDINBURGH and LONDON DILIGENCE,
by KELSO and NEWCASTLE,

And from LONDON to EDINBURGH by the same Road,
SETS out every morning, at six o'clock precisely, (Sundays excepted)

From Duncan M'Farlane's, foot of the Pleasance, Edinburgh; Mr Redpath's, the Red Lion, Berwick-upon-Tweed; Mr Robinson's, the Crown and Thistle, Great-market, Newcastle; Mr Jackman's, the George Inn, York; and Mr Mountain's, the Cross Keys, Wood street, London : Carrries three inside passengers, each to pay as under:

From Edinburgh to Newcastle,	L. 1 14 0
From Newcastle to York,	1 1 0
And from York to London,	2 2 0

L. 4 17 0

Passengers taken up on the road from Edinburgh to Newcastle to pay 3d. per mile; from Newcastle to London 3d. per mile. To be allowed 14 lbs. of luggage; and all above to pay, from Edinburgh to Newcastle 2d. per lib. from Newcastle to York 1 1/2 d. per lib. and from York to London 3d. per lib.

The proprietors not to be accountable for any thing above the value of 3l. unless the value thereof be specified, and paid for at the time of delivery.

Also, a NEW DILIGENCE from Edinburgh to Glasgow by Kirkliston, Linlithgow, Falkirk, Kilsyth, and Kirkintilloch, and from Glasgow to Edinburgh by the same road, sets out every day at eight o'clock in the morning (Sunday excepted) from Duncan M'Farlane's, White Hart Inn, foot of the Pleasance, Edinburgh; and from William Reid's, at the Union and Crown Inn, Gallowgate, Glasgow; each passenger to pay 3d.

As the above are quite new undertakings, and will give the public an easy and convenient opportunity of passing through a number of trading towns, to which at present there is no passage of this kind, the proprietors humbly hope for the favour and encouragement of the public, which will be gratefully received, and no endeavours spared for good accommodation on their part.

BY A JOURNEMENT.

SALE OF THE LANDS OF COLPNA.

Upon Wednesday the 13th day of April next, betwixt the hours of 4 and 5 afternoon, within the house of Alexander Mason vintner in Aberdeen, will be exposed to voluntary roup and sale

THE LANDS and Estate of COLPNA, lying in the parish of Belhelvie, and county of Aberdeen. The money-rent for crop 1780 is 252 l. Sterling; 17 holls, 1 farl, and 3 pecks of meal above eight stone, 1 boll of bear, and 78 hens. The mansion-house, and about 30 acres adjacent, is under no lease; a good part of the estate is inclosed, and the whole marked out for that purpose, according to a neat and regular plan; the soil is excellent, well accommodated with meadows and grass; lies within five miles of Aberdeen, and three of Newburgh, hold of the Crown, and entitle to vote for a member, to represent the county of Aberdeen in Parliament. The tenants are bound to pay 6d. per cent. for the money laid out for dyking, hedging, and ditching.

Rentals of the estate to be seen in the hands of John Fraser, writer to the signet, Mill's Court, Edinburgh, which with articles of roup, plan of the estate, and progress of works, are clear and unexceptionable, also to be seen in the hands of Harry Luniden, Advocate in Aberdeen.

D I N B U R G H : Printed for and by JOHN ROBERTSON, and sold at his Printing-house in the PARLIAMENT-CLOSE, where ADVERTISEMENTS and SUBSCRIPTIONS are taken up. His Paper is regularly published every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday.—The price as follows, viz. 4s. 6d. per annum, when sent by post; 40s. 6d. when sent to any house in this city or suburbs, 37s. 6d. when called for at the Printing-house; and a single paper 3d.

To be SOLD by public roup, within John's Coffeeshop, Edinburgh, on Wednesday the 5th April next, betwixt the hours of four and five afternoon,

THE following SUBJECTS lying in Edinburgh and Leith, viz.

LOT I. That LODGING or DWELLING-HOUSE, being the first storey from the ground, of that large tenement of land, on the north side of the Calfie-hill, near Ramsay Garden, lately built by John Gow, consisting of dining-room and drawing-room, 20 feet by 16 each, three bed-rooms, kitchen, a light closet, two cellars, and other conveniences.

LOT II. The Tapany, or Garret Storey of the said tenement, consisting of a dining-room, 19 1/2 feet by 16 and nine feet high, three bed-rooms, kitchen, closets, and other conveniences.

LOT III. The HALF of the FIRST STOREY of that tenement of Land in the Kirkgate of Leith, lately built by the said John Gow, as possessed by Mrs Fisher, consisting of a shop, room, kitchen, closet, cellar, garret, and other conveniences.

LOT IV. The HALF of the SECOND STOREY of the said tenement, consisting of two rooms, kitchen, cellar, and garret, as possessed by Mrs Baird.

LOT V. The THIRD STOREY of the said tenement, consisting of four rooms, two kitchens, two garrets, and two cellars, the one half of which is presently possessed by Mrs Primrose.

LOT VI. The FOURTH STOREY of the said tenement, consisting of four rooms, two kitchens, two garrets, and two cellars, possessed by Mr Pitman and Mr Levan.

LOT VII. A BAKER'S SHOP and OVEN, with a cellar and garret, and a room in the funk story of the said tenement.

LOT VIII. That DWELLING-HOUSE at the head of the West Bow, immediately above the house possessed by Mr Falconer clerk in the Weigh-house, consisting of two rooms, kitchen, closet, and other conveniences.

LOTS V. and VI. are so constructed as to be possessed either by one or two families.

The said John Gow will show the different subjects, to whom, or to Mr Archibald Miller coach-maker, Canongate, or Mr James Mitchell, merchant in Leith, any persons inclining to make a private bargain may apply.

FARM IN BERWICKSHIRE TO LET.

TO be LET for the space of nineteen years, or such other term, as may be agreed on, the Farm of OLD GREENLAW and HOWLARIG, belonging to the Orphan Hospital of Edinburgh, lying in the parish of Greenlaw, and shire of Berwick, consisting of about 260 acres. Entry to the grals and houses at Whitunday 1781, to the arable lands at Martinmas after.

This farm lies about 36 measured miles from Edinburgh, upon the great road to England.

N. B. Proposals to be given in to Mr Robert Scot Moncrieff merchant in Edinburgh, Treasurer to said Hospital, any time betwixt and the first day of May next.

FOR DISTILLERS.

TO be SET, and entered to immediately, THE NEW MILL of CRAIGFORTH, with the Dwelling-house, Two Kilns, Barn, and other conveniences, together with several acres of ground, of an excellent soil, adjoining to the steading, all lying upon the banks of the river Forth, and within a mile of the town of Stirling.

As the situation of this possession makes it very convenient for carrying on the Distillery business, any person wanting to enter into that trade will find it a place quite fit for the purpose, having all the principal buildings that may be wanted, with a complete command of water for every branch of the business, besides the advantage of water-carriage on the river Forth.

Whoever inclines to take the above possession, may apply to the proprietor at Craigforth, or to John Burns writer in Stirling.

Not to be repeated.

To be SOLD by private bargain,

THE LANDS of GOSPERTREE, lying in the parish of Strathniglo, and shire of Fife; and the lands of BALNETHILL, in the parish of Portmoak, and shire of Kinross.

These lands are situated within three miles of Kiarrof, and in the neighbourhood of other market towns. They are very extensive, of a good soil, and are capable of great improvement, which, from their vicinity to coal, lime, freestone, &c. may be carried on at a moderate expence.

The present yearly rent is about 155 l. Sterling, free of all deductions; but as the leases (some of which were of long endurance) all expire with this and next crop, a very considerable rise may, with certainty, be depended on, offers having already been made.

Both estates hold feu of subject superiors.

The proprietor has right to the teinds; and there is an old valuation of the lands of Gosptree.

The title-deeds are in the hands of James Thomson writer to the signet, who will inform of further particulars.

HOUSE IN GEORGE STREET, ST ANDREWS SQUARE.

TO be SOLD, by private bargain, and entered to at Whitunday next, that new, commodious, and well-finished dwelling-house, north side of George Street, second door west from the corner, which belonged to, and was possessed by, the late Mrs Brodie of Lethen, consisting of four stories and garrets, having three rooms on a floor of three of the storys. In the ground-story, kitchen, housekeeper's room, servants room, a light pantry, and pantries: In the garret-story, three rooms, one of them being a large good bed-chamber, has a fine north prospect: In the front, three cellars for coals, beer, and wine, the last neatly catacomb'd; a large lead cistern and water-pipe; a back court, or yard, office-house, and hen-house, with a passage to the north.

The house is well accommodated with pantries, a large bed-closet, and other conveniences, free of smoke, and in good order, and has been inhabited since Whitunday last, that it was finished, and is to be seen daily from twelve to three o'clock afternoon.

For further particulars, apply to Robert Donaldson, writer to the signet.

To be LET, for such a number of years as may be agreed upon, and entered to at Whitunday 1780,

THE MANSION-HOUSE of PITCAIRLY, with Garden, Office-houses, Farm-steading, and about 150 acres of Ground, all inclosed and subdivided, lying within a mile of the port of Newburgh, in the parish thereof, and shire of Fife.

The house is large and commodious; the ground-story consisting of a kitchen, scullery, laundry, servants hall, two rooms for servants, milk-house, and three vaulted cellars; and the second story consisting of a dining-room, 30 feet by 21, drawing-room 24 by 16, and thirteen bed-rooms in that and the third story; most of which have dressing rooms off them, with closets and other conveniences. The offices are new and convenient, and situated at a small distance from the house. The inclosures, which have long been in the natural possession of the proprietor, are mostly in grass, and are all in excellent order; are well watered, and have good shades. The farm-steading is at a proper distance from the house, and is very complete.

If the farm is thought too large, a smaller quantity of ground will be let along with the house.

The premises are situated in a good neighbourhood, in the midst of a good sporting country, and near several market-towns.

The house will be let furnished or unfurnished; or, if the tacksman inclines, he may have all or any part of the furniture at a valuation.

As also to be LET, and entered to immediately,

or at Martinmas 1780,

The FARM of EASTER LUMBENNY, which is of a good black soil, of large extent, and lies within a short mile of the port of Newburgh. The labouring of this farm is so far advanced, that the seed may be put in the ground as soon as the season will permit.

Proposals may be made to the proprietor, at the house of Pitcairly (by Falkland); or to James Thomson writer to the signet, Edinburgh.

A COMPLETE ASSORTMENT OF HARDWARE,

To be SOLD by SLUMP.

THE WHOLE STOCK in Trade of the deceased Mr ROBERT THOMSON merchant in the Exchange of Edinburgh, being a large Assortment of London, Birmingham, and Sheffield HARDWARE. As Mr Thomson was in special good credit, and well skilled in his business, the goods are well chosen, and mostly fresh, and in good condition, fit for wholesale or retail trade.

Any person inclining to take the whole goods by lump will be allowed a considerable discount, and twelve months credit, on finding sufficient security; and at same time may have a lease of the shop and pertinents in the Exchange possessed by Mr Thomson, for such number of years as can be agreed upon. To be entered to as soon as a bargain is made.

Whoever inclines to purchase the goods, or take the shop, may apply to Mr James Carfrae woollen-draper in the Exchange, who is possessed of complete inventories, and will show the goods and shop themselves, and commute with any person inclining to make a bargain.

Such as were indebted to the said Robert Thomson, by bills, accompts, or otherwise, are required forthwith to pay in their debts to Mr Thomson his widow, at her house in Turk's Clove, Edinburgh, she being fully authorized to receive and discharge the same.

LANDS of BADINSOTH in Aberdeenshire to be SOLD.

THE Lands and Estate of BADINSOTH